In the Claims:

Cancel **Claim 1.**

Claim 2 (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide ~~according to claim 1, wherein it is a polynucleotide~~ of sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 8.

Claim 3 (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide ~~according to claim~~ 1, wherein it is a polynucleotide of sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9.

Claim 4 (previously presented) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 4, SEQ.ID.NO. 5, SEQ.ID.NO. 11 and SEQ.ID.NO. 12.

Claim 5 (previously presented) An isolated polynucleotide of sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 13.

Cancel **Claim 6.**

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (previously presented) An expression vector containing a polynucleotide of sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 13.

Claim 9 (previously presented) A host cell transformed or transfected by an expression vector according to claim 8.

Claim 10 (currently amended) A process for preparing an isolated polypeptide corresponding to the protein encoded by the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13 ~~or one of the fragments of the said SEQ ID NO. 13~~ or by a sequence complementary to the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 ~~or one of the fragments of the latter~~, said isolated polypeptide having at least one ~~immunoligical~~ immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH and being associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, said preparation process comprising the following steps:

(a) culture, under suitable conditions to obtain the expression of said polypeptide of a host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13, the sequence complementary to the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13 ~~or also one of the fragments of the latter~~, said isolated polypeptide having at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRN protein and being associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, and

(b) isolation of the polypeptide from the host cell cultures.

Cancel **Claim 11**.

Claims 12 to **17** (cancelled).

Cancel **Claims 18** to **22**.